Seed production by institutions

†4680. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN': Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that seeds are being produced in the public sector;

(b) if so, the names of such institutions, engaged in production of seeds at present;

(c) the areas of land allowed to each institution for production of seeds; and

(d) the average percentage of the land utilised during the past few years for production of seeds, out of the land allotted to these institutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two Central Public Sector Undertakings under the administrative control of the Ministry of Agriculture, namely, National Seeds Corporation Ltd. and State Farms Corporation of India Ltd. are engaged in seed production.

(c) and (d) About 18,000 ha. or about 82% of the available cultivable land is being used by State Farms Corporation of India for seed production. The balance cultivable land is being used for propagation of saplings of horticulture, plantation crops and commercial orchards. National Seeds Corporation gets seeds produced through seed growers on contract basis.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.